Downtrend in Indian export

439. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how much is the drop in India's total exports in the last six months as compared to the previous year (month-wise);

(b) how many jobs have been lost as a result thereof; and

(c) what fiscal steps are being taken to arrest this downward trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) The details of fall in India's total exports during the last six months as compared to the corresponding months of the previous year is given below:

Month-wise exports during 2008-09

Month	2007-08	2008-09	Growth
	US $ Mill.	US $ Mill.	(%)
December	14625	12690	-13.2
January	14889	12381	-16.8
February	15221	11913	-21.7
March	17254	11516	-33.3

Month-wise exports during 2009-10

Month	2008-09	2009-10	Growth
	US $ Mill.	US $ Mill.	(%)
April	16076	10743	-33.2
May	15550	11010	-29.2

Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata

(b) A sample survey conducted by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) for 648 exporting units spread over 17 different sectors across the country, primarily employment oriented, revealed job loss (direct and indirect) to the tune of 1,34,593 persons during the period August' 08 to April' 09. This does not reflect the total job losses which would be higher.

(c) The steps taken during 2008-09 to arrest the downward trend in exports, *inter-alia*, include interest subvention of 2 per cent on pre and post shipment credit for labour intensive exports; additional allocation of Rs. 350 crore for export incentive schemes; enhancement of Duty Drawback Benefits on certain items including knitted fabrics, bicycles, agricultural hand tools and specified categories of yarn, provision of additional funds of Rs. 1400 crore for textile sector to clear the backlog claims of Technology Up gradation Fund (TUF) etc.

Impact of foreign farm products on Indian Agriculture

440. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state: